

NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release
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Village of Antioch Postpones July 4th Fireworks Display

Due to the conditions in the Antioch area being unfavorable, Antioch's Annual Independence Day Fireworks have been postponed indefinitely. Factors determined to be unfavorable in the launch area include exceptionally dry ground cover, close proximity to houses and businesses and extreme hot temperatures combined with moderate winds. The remainder of the events planned for July 4th are still scheduled to occur and can be found on the Village website, antioch.il.gov. "The fireworks in Antioch have always been something special that we all enjoy," stated Mayor Larry Hanson. "However, with the heightened chance of fire outbreaks, the risk to life and property is too great."

Village officials met Monday morning after inspecting the launch area and reviewing the weather reports. "After all alternatives were discussed, existing conditions require postponement of the July 4th fireworks until another safer date can be determined," said Village Administrator Jim Keim.

According to Fire Department representatives, there has been an increase in the number of fires in the area due to the near drought conditions. "With the weather forecasts indicating little appreciable rainfall, the high risk of fire will continue to exist. Our biggest concern is the potential for fires in the neighborhoods surrounding the launch site due to fireworks' debris fallout," stated Fire Chief John Nixon.

Please practice hot weather preparedness by staying well hydrated, avoid strenuous activity, apply sunscreen and limit exposure to the heat. Village and its partnering agencies would like the public to know that the private use of fireworks is prohibited by Village ordinance and state law, and can be dangerous to life and property.